

scenarios from removing a PA on lubiprostone when cost per PA >\$15.34 or PA approval rate >74.83%, or expected increase in prescriptions from lifting PA <19.99%. **CONCLUSION:** PA program for lubiprostone offers no financial savings to a health plan based on current approval rates and annual utilization for patients suffering from CC in the base case as well as in sensitivity analyses.

PGI27**INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASES (IBD) PATIENTS PROFILE: FACTS EXTRACTED FROM A MULTICENTER RETROSPECTIVE STUDY**

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OBJECTIVE: Access the Brazilian inflammatory bowel diseases patients' profile **METHODS:** A retrospective database study was performed in 23 IBD treatment centers in 14 Brazilian reference cities. The centers collected data from the last 5 years about personal data, disease important aspects (like race and smoking habits), diagnosis and disease treatment. **RESULTS:** A total of 2529 medical records were analyzed. Crohn's disease was the most prevalent (49%) IBD. Sixty-five percent of the patients are Caucasian and 9% are smokers. The median weight of the patients are 62.5 kg and the median age 40.18% of the patients came to the actual medical center with a previous IBD diagnostic and 64% of this diagnosed group came with a previous treatment. **CONCLUSION:** This is the first time that significant information about the Brazilian IBD patient profile is evaluated. Knowledge of the IBD could be a useful tool for supply policy interventions. Combined with clinical data, this patient profile could contribute to the qualitative and quantitative evaluation of disease management policy for this group of illness.

PGI28**IMPORTANT FACTORS WHEN CONSIDERING TREATMENT FOR ULCERATIVE COLITIS**

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OBJECTIVE: To quantify preferences that ulcerative colitis (UC) patients place on treatment attributes when making therapy choices. **METHODS:** A telephonic survey of patients with UC > 18 years old who requested information from the website www.LivingWithUC.com from January to April 2006. Patients were presented with nine factors that might impact a UC patient's decision-making process regarding whether to use a biologic medication such as infliximab. A discrete choice methodology was employed using a complete block design, which presented 9 factors being tested in 36 discrete pairs and patients were asked to select the more important factor from each pair presented. **RESULTS:** A total of 427 UC patients were contacted to get 294 completed interviews. The median age was 50 years and 204 (69.4%) were female. Of respondents currently on medication, 71% indicated their symptoms were under control and 75% of these respondents were experiencing ≥ 2 flares per year. One third (34%) of respondents classified their UC as being moderate to severe. When asked about treatment options presented by their doctor, 42% had discussed surgery and 18% said doctors indicated surgery was a cure for UC. Half (50%) recalled their doctor presenting only one drug option, and of those presented with several options, 20% recall the physician emphasizing a particular drug. Respondents indicated healing the damage of the intestinal lining (74%) and avoiding surgery (73%) were important characteristics when deciding to use a product like infliximab to treat UC. Method of administration (23%) and cost

of co-pay (19%) were given least importance. **CONCLUSION:** While doctors may focus on surgery as a cure for UC, patients in this study state healing intestinal damage and avoiding surgery would be their most important reasons to use a medication. Doctors and patients may need to discuss a wider variety of therapeutic options for treating UC before surgery is considered.

INFECTION—Clinical Outcomes Studies**PINI****TREATMENT OF HEPATITIS C INFECTION FOR CURRENT OR FORMER SUBSTANCE ABUSERS IN A COMMUNITY SETTING**

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OBJECTIVE: The Ontario Addiction Treatment Centres (OATC) operates 26 clinics offering methadone maintenance treatment (MMT) to clients with a dependence on opiates. Until recently, MMT was a contraindication to antiviral therapy for the treatment of Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infected patients. The purpose of this study was 1) to describe a care model for treating HCV infected MMT clients in a community-based setting, 2) to describe clinical and demographic characteristics of these clients, 3) to assess rates of adherence to antiviral therapy, and 4) to assess rates of sustained virological response (SVR). **METHODS:** A review of patient medical records was employed. Clients considered for antiviral therapy at the OATC had achieved "functional stability", characterized by stable housing and a low frequency of substance abuse, in addition to meeting clinical criteria. Clients were followed by a hepatitis nurse, clinic physician or infectious disease specialist at the clinic where they received methadone. Use of illicit substances was monitored before, during and after antiviral therapy with regular urinalysis. **RESULTS:** Between November 2002 and January 2006, 109 clients (75 with genotype 1/4 and 33 with genotype 2/3) received at least one injection with pegylated interferon. The majority of clients were single (60%), living in a permanent apartment or house (94%), with a high frequency of self-reported psychiatric disorders (68%). A large proportion had a criminal history (71%) and many had been incarcerated (52%). Rates of adherence to treatment of 57% and 70% were achieved for genotypes 1/4, and 2/3, respectively. Rates of SVR in an intention to treat analysis were 51% for genotypes 1/4 and 64% for genotypes 2/3. Six clients discontinued therapy due to on-going problems with substance abuse. **CONCLUSION:** HCV antiviral therapy for current or former substance abusers can be successful in the context of specialized care for substance abuse.

PIN2**A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PEGYLATED INTERFERON, LAMIVUDINE, ADEFOVIR AND ENTECAVIR FOR THE TREATMENT OF HEPATITIS B**

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OBJECTIVE: To systematically review the effectiveness of pegylated interferon (PEG), lamivudine (LAM), adefovir (ADF) and entecavir (ENT) in treating CHB. **METHODS:** Pubmed, Embase, Cochrane, and Econlit were searched for randomized controlled trials assessing the efficacy of the selected drugs for treating CHB

published in the English language from dates of inception to January 2007. Patients were considered to have CHB if they had elevated ALT levels and active viral replication. Monotherapy, combination and sequential therapies were included. Among trials that met our inclusion criteria, we abstracted data describing normalization of ALT, HBV DNA, sustained biochemical response, HBeAg seroconversion, histological improvement, drop-outs and adverse events. Intention-to-treat data were combined using a random-effects meta-analysis, with missing data considered as treatment failures. Outcomes were expressed as relative risks with 95% confidence intervals. **RESULTS:** The initial search yielded 2064 references, 127 were excluded due to inadequate blinding, allocation concealment, randomization and reporting of outcomes; 20 studies were included. Trials involved 5573 patients (4121 males, 1309 females), ranging in size from 200–814 patients. Mean age was 40.7. Eleven trials studied HBeAg-positive patients, four trials studied HBeAg-negative patients, and four trials studied both. Due to small numbers of trials for comparison led to pooling of HBeAg-positive and HBeAg-negative studies. No treatment was superior for all outcome measures. Monotherapy was superior to placebo. Comparisons of single drugs favored treatment with ADF or ENT over LAM or PEG. LAM was superior to PEG with better clinical outcomes and fewer adverse events and patient dropouts. Combination and sequential treatments were not superior, however comparisons were limited by our one-year follow-up. **CONCLUSION:** Monotherapy with ADF or ENT are the most attractive treatment options within the first year of treatment. Further research on combination and sequential therapies may provide better options but presently insufficient evidence exists to support this approach.

PIN3

DATA MINING PHYSICIAN DECISION AND INVESTIGATING TREATMENT OPTIONS OF OSTEOMYELITIS

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OBJECTIVE: The purpose of this study is to investigate treatment options of osteomyelitis based on physician decisions recorded in our dataset. **METHODS:** We want to find the frequency of a given input (code) for a variable, or more than one variable in health care data. Using the Thomson MedStat MarketScan data containing all patient claims for 40 million observations, the primary diagnosis code is given for each patient as well as fifteen possible secondary diagnoses. We use SAS Text Miner to demonstrate a simplified method to search these fifteen columns. We use ICD9 and CPT codes to find treatments for osteomyelitis. We also look for sequential treatments for recurrence of osteomyelitis. After filtering the data for Osteomyelitis, there are 18,721 observations in inpatients that contain 2661 patients, and 233,001 observations in outpatients with 78,957 patients. **RESULTS:** The difference between the number of observation and number of distinct patient IDs shows that most patients have a sequence of procedures during their treatment. After sorting the data by procedures, the most frequent (20%) is "Dorsal and dorsolumbar fusion, posterior technique", second is "Excisional debridement of wound, infection, or burn" (15%), third "Amputation of toe" (9%), and in forth place, "Revision of amputation stump" (7%). In the outpatient data, the most frequent procedure is code 86.59 (Closure of skin and subcutaneous tissue of other sites) with 4021 records out of 8711 records. We found that about 8 % of patients with osteomyelitis from inpatient data and about 0.3% from outpatient data had amputation. **CONCLUSION:** While amputation does not occur as often as debridement, we want to

examine the sequence of treatments to see whether amputation follows a pattern of debridement.

PIN4

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE PREVALENCE OF ENTEROCOCCI FROM BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA HOSPITALS 2001–2006

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OBJECTIVE: To determine antimicrobial resistance profiles for Enterococcus in 14 tertiary-level hospitals in Bogotá, Colombia. **METHODS:** Time series analyses were performed, as well as descriptive analyses of Enterococcus faecalis and Enterococcus faecium in hospitals belonging to the Bogotá Bacterial Resistance Control Group from January 1, 2001–January 1, 2007. We identified the presence and species of enterococcus according to anatomical site. **RESULTS:** During that period, a total of 5770 strains of Enterococci faecalis and 1259 of Enterococcus faecium were analyzed. Enterococcus was found in >20% of isolates from blood samples and abdominal fluid in critical care units (SUCI) and in >10% of samples from non-critical care services (SNUCI) in tertiary-level hospitals in Bogotá. Ampicillin was active against Enterococcus faecalis strains in Critical care units (SUCI) and other services (SNUCI), but >50% of E.faecium strains in SNUCI were resistant. Vancomycin-resistant strains occurred in >2% of E.faecalis strains identified in SUCI and >8% in SNUCI. The resistance trend in E.faecium to vancomycin in SNUCI was towards the low in the six years studied. **CONCLUSION:** This study confirms the worldwide trend towards an increase in infections due to Enterococcus. The emerging pattern of antimicrobial resistance among such isolates is alarming.

PIN5

INTEREST OF MULTI-CRITERIA MODELING APPROACH IN ASSESSMENT OF YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC RISK

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OBJECTIVE: The danger of widespread and intense epidemics of yellow fever (YF) in Africa has become very serious, requiring urgent immunization response. Because it is not possible to vaccinate 100% of the adult population, the challenge is to prioritize immunization of the population at highest risk. An original risk assessment has been performed at the initiative of the World Health Organization, using modeling to enable countries to define populations currently at highest risk, which will be vaccinated in priority. **METHODS:** Five exposure risk factors have been selected and collected at the district level in three African countries: Burkina Faso, Togo, Mali. The five indicators are: ecological risk zone, confirmed YF cases since 1960, suspected cases since 1960, number of years in which YF cases notified since 1960, district close to another district that has notified cases since 1960. A multi-criteria analysis based on multiple component analysis (MCA) has constructed a composite exposure indicator (CEi) from the five selected exposure risk factors. In reducing by mathematical projections the number of dimensions, MCA modeling synthesizes complex data tables. **RESULTS:** For each of the three target countries, three analyses have been done for rural districts, urban districts and rural + urban districts. Four risk clusters have been determined from the lowest risk to the highest risks, allowing the construction of detailed YF risk maps in Burkina-Faso, Togo and Mali. These "YF risk assessment maps" present in four colors the four risk clusters at each